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E.O. 12958: DECL: 2/13/2016

TAGS: <u>PGOV PREL PARM KNNP IR AORC TI</u> SUBJECT: TAJIKISTAN: IRAN POINTS DELIVERED

REF: STATE 19516

CLASSIFIED BY: Richard Hoagland, Ambassador, EXEC, State.

REASON: 1.4 (b), (d)

 $\underline{\mbox{1}}\mbox{1}.$ (C) Post delivered reftel talking points on February 10 on the IAEA decision to report Iran to the UN Security Council along with the President's and Secretary's talking points. Ismatullo Nasredinov, Head of the Department of European and American Countries at the MFA accepted the points and said he would immediately convey points to the Foreign Minister. Nasredinov said this is a "serious" issue that will likely be raised with President Rahmonov. Nasredinov expressed Tajikistan's "difficult position:" Tajikistan is against nuclear research for weapons purposes and must heed the international community's decision, however, Tajikistan can not come out too strongly against Iran because of Tajikistan's development projects funded by Iran and hopes for increased Iranian investment. Nasredinov predicted that if Tajikistan had to vote in the General Assembly on the issue, it might abstain.

12. (U) Kabul minimize considered.

HOAGLAND